## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA NEW ALBANY DIVISION

IN RE:

EASTERN LIVESTOCK CO., LLC

CASE NO. 10-93904 CHAPTER 11

**DEBTOR** 

## NOTICE OF FILING OF SOUTHEASTERN LIVESTOCK NETWORK LLC'S LETTER IN SUPPORT OF MOTIONS TO REMOVE TRUSTEE

Notice is hereby given that DelCotto Law Group PLLC ("DLG") received the letter (the "Letter") attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u> from the Southeastern Livestock Network LLC (the "SLN"), by counsel, with a request to file the Letter in the record of this case. As a professional courtesy, and not on behalf of any of DLG's clients in this case or related matters, the undersigned hereby files the Letter on behalf of the SLN.

Respectfully submitted,

DELCOTTO LAW GROUP PLLC

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on August 20, 2012, a copy of the foregoing was filed electronically. Notice of this filing will be sent to the following parties through the Court's Electronic Case Filing System. Parties may access this filing through the Court's system.

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I further certify that on August 20, 2012, a copy of the foregoing will be served by first-class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or by electronic mail as indicated, to the following:

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VIA EMAIL

National Cattlemen's Beef Assoc. Nancy Gargula

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VIA EMAIL VIA EMAIL

s/ Laura Day DelCotto, Esq.

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## EXHIBIT A

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August 17, 2012

The Honorable Basil H. Lorch, III United States Bankruptcy Judge United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Indiana 121 W. Spring Street, Room 110 New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Eastern Livestock Co., LLC

Dear Judge Lorch:

The Southeastern Livestock Network (SLN) is an organization of eleven grassroots cattlemen's associations representing the livestock industry across the Southeastern United States. SLN is actively engaged representing producers and specifically issues that impact the sustainability of their operations, as well as the consumer's understanding of their industry and way of life.

The region represented by the Southeastern Livestock Network accounts for twenty-five percent of the nation's cattle farmers and twenty percent of the US beef cow herd. The eleven state cattlemen's associations that comprise the membership of SLN represent well over 50,000 members.

Since its organization in 2004, SLN has worked to create services and coordinate educational efforts to benefit grass-roots cattlemen of every size across the region. One example of these efforts is the value added marketing tools that SLN has coordinated with the industry that has allowed almost 200,000 head of Source and Age Verified cattle to be marketed from the southeast in the last two years. These cattle have come from operations verifying from as few as two calves to as many as two thousand. Prior to November 2010, many of these cattle were purchased and remarketed by Eastern Livestock and their subsidiaries. The impact the fall of this firm has had on the beef industry, and particularly in the Southeast has been devastating.

In addition to individual farms, marketing firms, trucking agents and many others that are crucial to the sustainability of the beef industry as we know it have been monumentally impacted by this bankruptcy. While everyone involved recognizes that the unwinding of the facts in this issue is complex, we are gravely concerned about the direction in which the current trustee has proceeded.

The need for transparency and unquestionable integrity is paramount in a precedent setting case of this magnitude. As the industry prepares for the biggest marketing season of the year and is approaching the two year anniversary of this tragedy, we need actions and answers. Frankly at this point, all that is evident is further depletion of the estate.

On behalf of our members and the industry in our region, we write today in support of the motions to remove the Trustee from the Eastern Livestock Company, LLC bankruptcy case. Please accept our thanks for considering our comments and helping this process move forward with the integrity that it and our producers deserve.

Sincerely,

Jim D. Collins

Jim Collins, Director of Industry Relations

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